

COMMANDER **NAVY PERSONNEL COMMAND 5720 INTEGRITY DRIVE** MILLINGTON, TN 38055-0040



EARLY RETURN/REASSIGNMENT PROGRAM MANAGER

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References

- * SECNAVINST 1754.2 Exceptional Family Member (EFM) Program.
- * BUPERSINST 7040.6 Navy's Financial Management Handbook.
- OPNAVINST 4650.15 Navy Passenger Transportation Manual.
- * MILPERSMAN 1300-306 Overseas Screening Deficiency Report/Request for Early Return.
- JFTR U5200 thru U5400 Authorizes Dependent Travel, Household Goods Shipment, POV Shipment, etc.

EARLY RETURN FROM OVERSEAS ASSIGNMENT

- * Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) Enrollment.
 - *Pursuant to SECNAVINST 1754.2B,

 Enrollment in the program is

 mandatory. All family members identified
 with medical, psychological, or special
 educational requirements of a chronic
 nature (6 months or longer) will be promptly
 enrolled when the condition is identified.

*Ensure that a renewed or updated application for the EFM program is submitted when the family member's condition changes or upon completion of diagnostic evaluations. The normal update process is every 3 years, or 9 months prior to receiving orders, or with a change of status of a special needs family member.

- * EFM CATEGORIES AND ASSIGNMENT LIMITATIONS:
 - * Category I: An EFM whose medical, psychological, or educational condition requires monitoring by NAVPERSCOM (PERS-662) but does not preclude the sponsor's assignment to overseas/isolated duty stations, require assignment near a major MTF (Medical Treatment Facility), or dictate homesteading.
 - * Category II: An EFM whose medical, psychological health/special educational condition requires special placement in compatible geographic areas, pinpointing assignments in CONUS or OCONUS.

- *Category III: An EFM who will not normally qualify for an accompanied overseas assignment. The medical, psychological/special educational condition precludes the assignment of the sponsor's family members to overseas locations based on non-availability of medical, psychological/special educational services.
- *Category IV: An EFM who requires a sponsor assignment near a major medical area (either military or civilian) in CONUS.

* Category V: An EFM who requires a sponsor homestead assignment. These EFMs are considered by the CSC (Central Screening Committee) to be severely disabled. A homestead assignment enables long term retention of the sponsor by creating a stable environment for the EFM due to the availability of required medical, psychological/special educational services. A homestead assignment will not preclude the requirement for sea/shore rotation of the sponsor, nor will it interfere in the assignment of a sponsor-elected unaccompanied or sponsor-elected geographical bachelor assignment, provided the needs of the EFM are addressed and the sponsor is counseled.

- * Homestead assignment occurs with the first assignment after the initial enrollment in the EFMP as a Category V. Homesteading retains the member's EFM in that area until the needs/requirements change, dependency status changes, member departs the service, etc. Homesteading does not allow for transfer from one homestead area to another.
- * Category VI: An EFM who requires the sponsor to enroll temporarily for a period of 6 months but no more than 1 year while treatment or diagnostic assessments are ongoing. Service member will submit an updated enrollment form at the end of that time.

* REQUEST FOR EARLY RETURN.

* The purpose of the Early Return/Reassignment Program is to ensure the availability and continuity of care for military dependents currently stationed OCONUS, or INCONUS, where required medical care, treatment, educational needs, or facilities are **not** available through military or civilian sources. The program is designed as a means through which members may be returned to CONUS from an OCONUS duty station for unusual circumstances **not covered under other existing policies or regulations.**

- * Request submission:
 - * All requests for Early Return/Reassignment <u>must</u> be submitted by the member's command as an Overseas Screening Deficiency Report (OSDR)/Request for Early Return message in the format provided as Exhibit 1 to MILPERSMAN Article 1300-306.
 - * Enrollment in the EFM Program is <u>mandatory</u> and <u>must be completed prior to submission of an Early Return/Reassignment Request.</u>

- *Requests for Early Return/Reassignment will be submitted expeditiously, within 10 working days of receipt of information justifying submission. These requests involve situations requiring timely medical or other support services intervention not readily available at the current duty station.
- *Any mitigating or unusual circumstances involved in the request for early return should be included in the message. Addition of paragraphs to accommodate this information is acceptable.

- * Once the request is received, orders directing transfer will normally be issued within 21 days. Detachment from current duty station will be directed to take place within 60 days of orders being released, unless a specific detachment date is requested by the command in the Early Return Request.
- * Assignment of Early Returns will be accomplished pursuant to EFM Category requirements, requisition priority and sea/shore rotation. All early return assignments are made by the Detailer based on this criteria.

*Ensure Early Return Requests contain the appropriate addressees, e.g., MCA (COMLANTFLT NORFOLK VA, COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI, etc.); ISIC (COMNAVAIRLANT, COMNAVSURFPAC, etc.); Transferring (previous duty station) Command; Servicing PSD.

- *Sailors with medical issues for which the local MTF cannot provide care or treatment will utilize the Medical Evacuation (MEDEVAC) process vice Early Return/Reassignment Program. (MILPERSMAN 1306-1600)
- *OPNAVINST 4650.15, Chapter 5, Appendixes F-H provide information and guidance for the Early Return of Dependents Under Unusual Circumstances and should be utilized when return of the service member is not being requested.

- * Possible Early Return Notification From PERS-662:
 - * Upon receipt of the EFM Enrollment Package from the Central Screening Committee, PERS-662 releases a message to the command indicating a recommendation for possible early return of the member and dependents or for dependents only.
 - * This message is not authority for the Detailer to release orders, rather, it requires action on the part of the member's command.
 - * Upon receipt by the command, a determination should be made as to what action is appropriate in this case.

- *Submit an Early Return Request for the member and dependents pursuant to MILPERSMAN 1300-306.
- *Notify PERS-662 that dependents only will be returned. Utilize guidance and procedures contained in OPNAVINST 4650.15.

ADDITIONAL ISSUES AFFECTING EARLY

RETURNS

- *Improperly Screened Sailors On Board In Excess Of Six Months.
- * DP Avails Vice Early Return. MILPERSMAN 1306-1704.
- * Hospitalization Of Enlisted Personnel. MILPERSMAN 1306-1600.
- * Insert EFM Statistics Spreadsheet Disk

ATTENTION TO DETAIL AND FOLLOWING ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES ARE THE KEYS TO A SMOOTH AND EXPEDIENT EARLY RETURN FOR SERVICEMEMBER AND DEPENDENTS!!!!

QUESTIONS ????